

Message Text

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66

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 CU-02 PC-01

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P 211706Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5755

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 16136

E.O. 1652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SEDU, PFOR, BC, LT, WZ, UK

SUBJECT: UBLS: LESOTHO OPTS OUT

REF: MASERU 1109

1. OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY (ODM) REACTED WITH DISMAY TO REPORT THAT GOL HAD PASSED ENABLING LEGISLATION TO WITHDRAW FROM UBLS AND SET UP ITS OWN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. REPORT FROM HICOM MASERU CITES BREAKDOWN OF GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT ON DEPARTURE OF ROGERS AND PROVISIONAL MOVE OF UNIVERSITY HEADQUARTERS TO SWAZILAND AS KEY FACTORS PROMPTING GOL ACTION.

2. ODM OFFICIALS SPENT END OF LAST WEEK IN RATHER INTENSE DISCUSSIONS WITH IUC ON FUTURE OF UK MANPOWER SUPPORT FOR UBLS. ODM WAS ASKING FOR ADVICE ON HOW FAR IT COULD GO IN RATIONALIZING ITS INPUTS TO UNIVERSITY'S REQUIREMENTS. EVIDENTLY MUCH INTEREST WAS SHOWN IN SUGGESTION BY CANADIAN MEMBER (PROF. ANDREWS) THAT UBLS MIGHT BE CHANGED INTO FEDERATION OF THREE UNIVERSITY COLLEGES. THESE DISCUSSIONS HAVE NOW BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AND ODM PLANNING FOR ITS
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FUTURE ROLE IN UBLS IS IN LIMBO. WE WILL REMAIN IN

CLOSE TOUCH WITH ODM AND REPORT ON ODM POSITIONS AS
THEY EVOLVE.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

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